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REMARKS

Claims 1 -- 40 are pending in the present Application. Claims 7, 24, 30, 31, and 36, have been cancelled, and Claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 14, 21, 23, 25 -- 27, 32, 35, and 37 have been amended, leaving Claims 1-6, 8-23, 25-29, 32-35, and 37-40 for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment. The Specification has been amended to correct certain typographical errors.

Claims 3, 5, 6, and 8 has been added for clarity as is supported by Paragraph [0053].

Claims 14 and 21 have been amended to correct grammar.

Claim 23 has been amended to insert a space between "about" and "10⁻¹⁸".

Claims 25, 26, 32, and 37 have been amended to change their dependency and for consistency of language.

Claims 27 and 35 have been amended to place the claims in independent form.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 38-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular,

the claim language "substrate" in Claims 38-39 and "two substrates" in Claim 40 are confused with the "substrate polymer" in Claim 30 because what is the difference between "a substrate polymer" in claim 30 and "substrate(s)" in Claims 38-39.

(Office Action, page 2)

Applicants contend that the terms are clear since the term "substrate" in Claim 30 is merely an adjective, while in Claims 38 -- 40, the term is clearly a noun. However, to facilitate allowance of the present application, the now independent Claim 35 uses the term "polymer" instead of "substrate polymer". Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

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Claim Objections

Claim 23 was objected to because "about 10^{-18} " needed to be changed to "about 10^{-18} ". Claim 23 has been amended accordingly. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 24-26, 30-34 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0149003 to Lucht et al.

Claims 24, 30, 31, and 36 have been cancelled, and the dependency of Claims 25, 26, and 32, have been changed, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Double Patenting

Claims 1 and 17-20 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-3, 8, 10-16, 26-27, and 36-44 of copending U.S. Patent Application 10/957,518 (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0110978 to Potyrailo et al.). Claims 1-9, 11, 24-34 and 36 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-6, 8, 11-15, 25-26, 28-35 and 39 of copending U.S. Patent Application 10/723,810 (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0112768 to Evans et al.). As this rejection, which is provisional. Pursuant to MPEP 804.01.I(13)

If the "provisional" double patenting rejection... is the only rejection remaining in that application, the examiner should then withdraw that rejection and permit the application to issue as a patent...

As these provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejections should be the only remaining rejections in the present application, this case should be allowed to issue. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

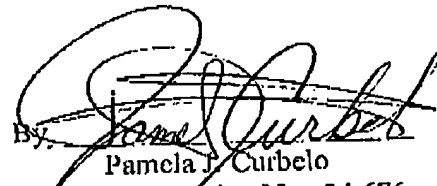
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It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejections and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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